What is an EIS/EIR?

An EIS (Environmental Impact Statement) and an EIR (Environmental Impact Report) are documents that are required to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), respectively. The purpose of these documents is to analyze and disclose a project's potential effects on the natural and human environment and identify mitigation measures and alternatives to avoid significant effects.

An EIS is prepared when there is Federal involvement in the project and an EIR is prepared when the project is subject to State or local jurisdiction. A joint document, an EIS/EIR, may be prepared when both a Federal and State agency are involved. The B.F. Sisk Dam Corrective Action Project EIS/EIR will disclose impacts on a broad range of environmental resources including vegetation, wildlife, cultural, recreation, and air quality. The major steps to complying with both NEPA and CEQA are outlined below.

